

HOUSE BILL 200
By Arriola

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 63, Chapter 6, relative to chelation therapy.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 63, Chapter 6, Part 2, is amended by adding the following as a new section as follows:

63-6-231. (a) Until February 1, 2002, and as further provided in subsection (c), it shall be lawful for a physician licensed under this chapter to prescribe, dispense, administer, supply, sell, give or otherwise make available to any patient any chelating agent or any form of chelation therapy for the treatment or prevention of any medical condition when the physician deems it in the best interest of the patient.

(b) For the purposes of this section:

(1) "Chelating agent" means any medication that is a parenteral or oral metal-binding and bioinorganic agent.

(2) "Chelation therapy" means a therapy to restore cellular homeostasis through the use of a parenteral or oral chelating agent.

(c) In an effort to make alternative medical therapy available to the citizens of the state in the safest and most advantageous way possible, the board of medical

examiners may choose to engage in a study of the utilization of chelation therapy. No rulemaking effort by the board on chelation therapy shall commence until the board has completed such a study including, but not limited to, adequate public notice, solicitation of all interested parties, and submission of the required report. No such report shall be submitted to the general assembly prior to February 1, 2002, unless there is clear and convincing scientific evidence that the actual use of chelation therapy produces harmful side effects on individuals receiving this form of therapy.

(d) Any rule in conflict with the provisions of this section is null, void and of no effect.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.